

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 602

By Casada

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Ozburn Hollow Farm in Williamson County as a Tennessee Century Farm.

WHEREAS, the history, traditions, and unique culture of our great State that we relish are truly sacred and worthy of our most noble efforts to document and preserve them as sacrosanct artifacts of our past and use them as path stones that let us daily trod in the perpetuity of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, the State of Tennessee, through the Department of Agriculture, created the Tennessee Century Farms Program. The program's specific purpose is recognizing and documenting the contributions of families who have owned and farmed the same land for at least 100 years; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University assumed the responsibility of the program and now documents at least one Century Farm in all of Tennessee's ninety-five counties; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the program's thirty-year existence, 1,507 farms have been certified by the Tennessee Century Farms Program; of those, 157 are documented to be 200 years old, 634 are 150 years old, and 716 are over 100 years old; and

WHEREAS, one family farm designated as a Century Farm is the Ozburn Hollow Farm located at 1070 Osburn Hollow Road in Arrington; and

WHEREAS, this 480 acre-homestead was founded in 1806, by York, Pennsylvania native and Revolutionary War veteran Robert Ozburn, and over the ensuing years, eight generations of his prodigy have resided upon and maintained the farm in continuous operation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ozburn, his wife, and their seven children relocated from Mecklenburg County, North Carolina in that year; they and subsequent generations worked the land to produce bounties of corn, wheat, swine, and cattle; and

WHEREAS, Ozburn Hollow Farm has been a bastion of agricultural productivity for more than two centuries, and it now enjoys a special place on Williamson County's honor roll of historic landmarks; and

WHEREAS, to assure the preservation of the farm and remove any future risk of division or development, current owners F. Perry and Elaine Ozburn have donated a permanent conservation easement to The Land Trust for Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body is pleased to recognize the excellent work of the Tennessee Century Farms Program, and we congratulate the owners of Ozburn Hollow Farm upon its recognition as such; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate F. Perry and Elaine Ozburn upon the designation of Ozburn Hollow Farm as a Tennessee Century Farm, and extend our best wishes to them for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.